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Steendland announces woman's appointment to Assistant Secretary for Education post

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IMMEDIATELY

STEENSLAND ANNOUNCES WOMAN'S APPOINTMENT
TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION POST

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state + cs

MISSOULA--

Sara C. Steensland, chairman of the Department of Home Economics at the University of Montana in Missoula and president of the Montana Home Economics Association, has announced the appointment of Dr. Virginia Yapp Trotter as Assistant Secretary for Education in the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Steensland said Dr. Trotter's nomination by President Nixon to the post became effective recently with confirmation of the nomination by the Senate. Dr. Trotter is the first woman to hold the federal government's highest education post. In the position, Dr. Trotter, who served as dean of the University of Nebraska's College of Home Economics and then as vice chancellor for academic affairs on the Lincoln, Neb., campus before taking the federal job, will head the education division of HEW, with authority over the Office of Education and the recently formed National Institute of Education, established to conduct and coordinate research.

Dr. Trotter, who is 52, is a native of Boise, Idaho. She received her bachelor's degree in 1943 and master's degree in 1947 at Kansas State University, Manhattan. Ohio State University, Columbus, awarded her the doctorate in 1960. Dr. Trotter has taught at several schools, including the Universities of Utah, Nebraska and Vermont.

Improving the situation of the handicapped has been Dr. Trotter's professional specialty. Besides her regular academic duties, she has been active in developing home economics and nutritional programs in university-related operations in Turkey and Columbia.